

# lockout laws



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To: Liquor Law Review <liquorlawreview@justice.nsw.gov.au>;

## To Whom It May Concern

I have not been directly affected by the lockout laws however I do know people who have. While I understand the concept behind them-they originally came about to stop the coward punch attacks. I personally of one young life who was lost as a result of such action however his attack happened at 9 o'clock in the evening. Nowhere near the late hours of the lockout laws. I fail to understand that rather than increase police presence you choose to isolate people from establishments. Melbourne do not have lockout laws. They understand the stranglehold it places on business and hence on peoples livelihoods. Rather than bring in a law that is directed to a small minority in our society but which affects a large majority of our social culture in Sydney, why do we not 'police' establishments ensuring that they are abiding by the RSA laws. When are we going to make people responsible for their own actions... not just when they attack someone rather than destroying the social culture of Sydney. The absolute joke of the lockout law is that there are exemptions such as the casino. One has to wonder why this is the case? Do drunk people not frequent such establishments. We need to look at changing a culture of "it's ok to drink to excess" to one of 'you can have fun without having to be drunk'. This is not done by punishing those in the majority who do the right thing. It is not done by taking the problem off the street and hoping it just all goes away.

Susen Sparkes